

POLICY

It is the policy of the Michigan Department of Human Services Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ) that facilities evaluate the need to pay medical costs incurred by an escaped youth.

PURPOSE

This policy ensures that facilities only pay medical expenses of youth who have escaped when no other payment sources exist.

DEFINITIONS

See JRG, JJ Residential Glossary.

**RESPONSIBLE
STAFF**

Designated in the facility standard operating procedure.

PROCEDURE

Each facility is required to develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) relative to liability for medical expenses incurred by an escaped youth. At a minimum, these SOPs must contain the following requirements:

Escaped Youth

Medical costs incurred while a youth is on escape status are evaluated on an individual basis dependent on:

- Court ordered parental responsibility to maintain health insurance.
- Whether an automotive accident is the source of injury or medical need. If the involved vehicle was stolen, no fault benefits may not be available if the youth was either:
 - The driver.
 - A passenger that knew the vehicle was stolen.

Escape Attempts

Youths injured during an unsuccessful escape attempt in the immediate vicinity of the residential facility have not left custody status and any medical expenses remain the responsibility of the facility.

**Youth on Leave of
Absence**

Authorized leave of absence situations are treated as an extension of physical custody.

AUTHORITY

Insurance Code of 1956, MCL 500.100 et seq.

Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.115a(1)(l)

Youth Rehabilitation Services Act, MCL 803.301 et seq.